

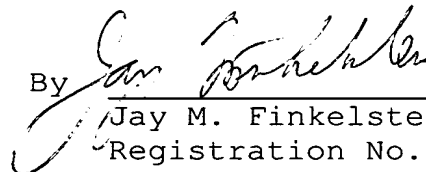
REMARKS

By the present Amendment, claim 8 has been canceled. The purpose of this cancellation is to obviate the provisional double patenting rejection made against claim 1 in Application No. 09/887,549.

Since this Amendment simply cancels a pending claim, it does not affect the patentability of the remaining claims. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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